

BLM and the public have the opportunity to get involved and help prevent future wildlife fatalities by:

- Only using solid-post markers as required by California Law.
- Filling any open pipe with sand or rocks.
- Or capping the pipe with a large, well-fitted rock.

Contact your local BLM office to report any open pipes located on public lands.

Solid Wood Claim marker



Solid Metal Claim marker



Report uncapped mining claim markers to the following California BLM-Field Offices:

Alturas Field Office
708 W. 12th St.
Alturas, CA 96101
Phone: (530) 233-4666

Arcata Field Office
1695 Heidon Road
Arcata, CA 95521
Phone: (707) 825-2300

Bakersfield Field Office
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Phone: (661) 391-6000

Barstow Field Office
2601 Barstow Rd
Barstow, CA 92311
Phone: (760) 252-6000

Bishop Field Office
351 Pacu Ln, Suite 100
Bishop, CA 93514
Phone: (760) 872-5000

Eagle Lake Field Office
2950 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130
Phone: (530) 257-0456

El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th ST
El Centro, CA 92243
Phone: (760) 337-4400

Mother Lode Field Office
5152 Hillsdale Circle
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
Phone: (916) 941-3101

Needles Field Office
1303 S. HWY 95
Needles, CA 92363
Phone: (760) 326-7000

Palm Springs Field Office
1201 Bird Center Dr
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Phone: (760) 326-7000

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Field Office
Hollister, CA 95203
Phone: (831) 630-5000

Redding Field Office
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, CA 96002
Phone: (530) 224-2100

Ridgecrest Field Office
300 S. Richmond Rd.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
Phone: (760) 384-5400

Surprise Field Office
602 Cressler St.
Cedarville, CA 96104
Phone: (530) 279-6101

Ukiah Field Office
2550 North State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
Phone: (707) 468-4000

Bureau of Land Management
2800 Cottage Way
Suite W-1623
Sacramento, CA 95825
Phone: (916) 978-4400
www.blm.gov/ca
BLM/CA/GI-2012-015+3870

Cover Photo: Ash-Throated Flycatcher. Photo by Bob Steele.
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Protecting Wildlife From Mining Claim Marker-related Mortality



Issue: What is happening to wildlife?

Wildlife is experiencing hazardous conditions due to the uncapped metal and plastic (Polyvinyl Chloride-PVC) pipes used as claim markers on public lands. Birds and other animals enter the pipe and it is hard for the animal to climb out due to the smooth walls of the pipe.

The Ash-Throated Flycatcher is most affected by uncapped pipes. Wildlife animals including this type of bird species are prone to entering uncapped and illegal mining posts. Because they cannot get out, the animals exhaust themselves and die.



A fence lizard and Northern Flicker were found in this pipe. Photo by Jeff King, Audubon CA-Kern River Preserve. Used with permission.

What we do?

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is unique among natural resources agencies due to the wide variety of responsibilities entrusted upon it. These responsibilities include protecting, managing, conserving public lands as well as the natural resource and wildlife found upon them. Successfully accomplishing these goals is both our greatest strength and biggest challenge.

The BLM minerals program:

- Inspects mines and exploration sites to make sure activities are conducted according to permitted plans;
- Conducts mining validity examinations

Sites that have uncapped markers have been found by the public and BLM staff.

Use of appropriate claim markers is governed by California State law see **Section 3. 3915 of the CA Public Resources Code.**

BLM Gold Book Location and Validity of Mining Claims and Sites in California:

Section 3. Section 3915 of the California Public Resources Code is amended to read:

1. A wooden post not less than 1-1/2 inches in diameter projecting at least two feet above the ground.
 2. A mound of stone projecting at least two feet above the ground.
 3. A non perforated, capped metal post or solid metal rod, not less than one inch in diameter and projecting at least two feet above the ground.
- (b) Where by reason of precipitous ground, it is impractical or dangerous to place a monument in its true position; a witness monument may be erected as near thereto as the nature of the ground will permit and make so as to identify the true position.
- (c) Where, by reason of working the claim, it is impractical or dangerous to maintain a monument in its true position, a witness monument shall be erected as near thereto as the nature of the ground will permit and marked so as to identify the true position.
- (d) Any person using on January 1, 1992, or who has previously erected any monument or object other than those defined in this section for the purpose of this chapter shall have until January 1, 1995, to comply with this section or remove those monuments which are not in compliance.
- (e) Within 180 days of abandonment, relinquishment, or loss of a claim, in effect on January 1, 1992, all monuments pertaining to a claim shall be permanently removed by the locator. A person who violates this subdivision shall be subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50) for each monument which is not removed and additionally liable for any cost incurred by the federal, state, or county government agency which removes any monument or has it removed.

Regulations